

PATENT Attorney Docket No. 108.0005-00000

Customer No. 22882 Express Mail No: EL849518747US.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

1-23-02

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)
) Group Art Unit: 2173
) Examiner: (Unassigned)
)

Box Missing Parts
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
OFFICE OF INITIAL PATENT EXAMINATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph before the first paragraph on page 1:

-- Related Application

Al

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No.

60/255,542, filed December 14, 2000, incorporated by reference herein. --

REMARKS

The Specification has been amended to include a claim of priority to Applicants' co-pending Provisional Application Serial No. 60/255,542. Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment prior to the examination of the above-identified application

is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account 50-1068.

Should the Examiner have any further questions, please contact the undersigned directly.

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Dated: July 16, 2001

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